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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): BLACK & DECKER INC. [US/US]; 1423 Kirkwood Highway, Newark, DE 19711 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): DASSOULAS, Stephen, C. [US/US]; 8202 Woodside Court, Baltimore,

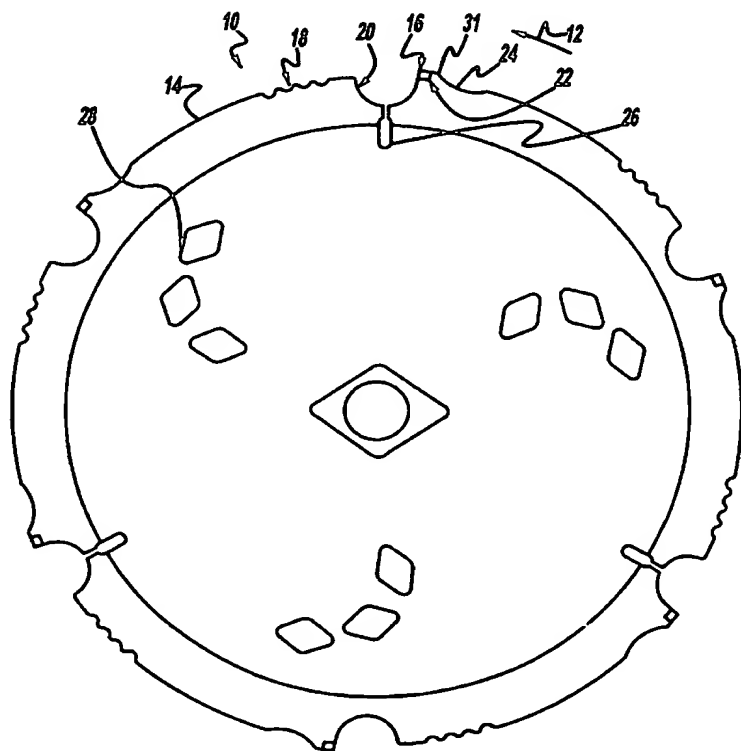
MD 21234 (US). CURTSINGER, John, R. [US/US]; 7334 Benson Drive, Shelbyville, KY 40065 (US). NOCK, Stefan [US/US]; 62 Ewing Drive, Reisterstown, MD 21136 (US). EDWARDS, Dean [US/US]; 341 Point to Point Road, Bel Air, MD 21015 (US). LINDBERG, Michael [US/US]; 13 Starlight Court, Rockville, MD 20854 (US). MCCLASKEY, Steve [US/US]; 3718 Turners Station Road, Turners Station, KY 40075 (US).

(74) Agents: BROCK, Christopher, M. et al.; Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C., P.O. Box 828, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303 (US).

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(54) Title: SAW BLADE FOR CUTTING FIBER CEMENT



(57) Abstract: An improved circular saw blade designed for cutting fiber cement workpieces, which are becoming more and more prevalent on the construction site, includes a PCD/carbide tip (16) mounted in the rim (31) of the saw blade (10) at six, rather than the usual four locations, equally spaced around the blade. The tips are mounted adjacent a relatively large-diameter, semi-circular gullet (20), which itself is preceded by a chip and dust minimizer (18). The minimizer includes several alternating hills (52) and valleys (54) formed in the rim of the saw blade, each hill and valley having the same radius, producing a sinuous array essentially centered on the rim of the blade. It has been discovered that such a dust and chip minimizer reduces the level of dust and chips produced by the blade and clears the same from the kerf generated in the blade-workpiece interface. Ideally, all of the parameters and relief angles for the surfaces on the saw blade tip can be generated by cutting an array of such tips from a large-diameter blank (110) of PCD fused to a layer of tungsten carbide (72), and by mounting the tips onto the blade in such an orientation as to present, preferably, a negative hook or rake angle (74) to the workpiece.

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